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WHCA [redacted] 1.3(a)(4)

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FM CIA
TO WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM
SSO ACSI DA EXCLUSIVE FOR GEN YARBOROUGH
AFSSO USAF EXCLUSIVE FOR GEN THOMAS
CNO EXCLUSIVE FOR ADM FLUCKEY
DIA/ISIC EXCLUSIVE FOR GEN CARROLL
NIC MR. HENDRICKSON ONLY
DIRNSA PRODWO EXCLUSIVE FOR GEN CARTER
STATE (RCI) MR. HUGHES ONLY
CIA-OCI FOR D/OCI
ZEM

1968 APR 8 23:08

SANITIZED
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4
NLJ 91-286
By [redacted] NARA, Date 8-4-92

FS

[redacted] 1.3(a)(4)

COUNTRY: NORTH VIETNAM
DOI: [redacted] APR 11 1968
SUBJECT: NORTH VIETNAMESE VIEWS ON NEGOTIATIONS
ACQ
SOURCE [redacted]

TO STATE: NO DISTRIBUTION EXCEPT TO THOMAS L. HUGHES
TO DIA: EXCLUSIVE FOR GENERAL CARROLL
TO NMCC/MC: EXCLUSIVE FOR ARMY ACSI, GENERAL YARBOROUGH;
NAVY DNI, ADMIRAL FLUCKEY;
AIR FORCE AFCIN, GENERAL THOMAS
TO NSA: EXCLUS IVE FOR GENERAL CARTER

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1. [redacted] THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (DRV) PRESENTED AN AIDE MEMOIRE PROPOSAL TO ASHMORE AND BAGGS TO THE FOLLOWING EFFECT: 1.3(a)(4)

A. THAT THE DRV HAS NO OBJECTION TO MAKING PRELIMINARY CONTACTS WITH THE UNITED STATES WHILE PARTIAL BOMBING STILL CONTINUES.

B. THE FIRST CONTACT MUST BE AIMED AT THE TOTAL CESSATION OF BOMBING BEFORE TALKS CONTINUE.

C. THE FIRST CONTACT MUST ONLY BE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE D.R.V. AT THE AMBA SSADOR LEVEL.

D. ASHMORE PROPOSED MOSCOW AS THE SITE F OR THE FIRST CONTACT, BUT THE D.R.V. REJECTED THIS PROPOSAL, POSSIBLY TO SPARE THE FEELINGS OF THE CHINESE PEOPLES' REPUBLIC CPRJ. THE D.R.V. PROPOSED PHNOM PENH; THEY COULD NOT PROPOSE VIENTIANE, THEY SAID, BECAUSE THERE IS NOW ONLY A CHARGE D' AFFAIRES AD INTERIM, WHILE IN PHNOM PENH THERE IS AN AMBASSADOR IN WHOM THEY HAVE A GREAT DEAL OF CONFIDENCE. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT THE D.R.V. DOES NOT FAVOR VIENTIANE BECAUSE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN VIENTIANE AND HANOI ARE BAD, AND VIENTIANE IS FELT TO BE OVERLY DOMINATED BY THE U.S.

2. ON THE NIGHT OF 5 APRIL, BAGGS AND ASHMORE WILL LEAVE FOR THE U.S. VIA VIENTIANE. IN THE MEANTIME, AIR RAIDS CONTINUE OVER D.R.V. TERRITORY. THE D.R.V. INFORMED ASHMORE ON THE NIGHT OF 4 APRIL THAT THE U.S. HAD BOMBED LAI CHAU, NEAR THE CPR BORDER NORTH OF DIEN BIEN PHU, CLOSE TO THE LAOTIAN BOUNDARY. NEVERTHELESS AS OF 5 APRIL 1968, THE ATTITUDE OF THE D.R.V. REMAINED CONCILIATORY.

3. FIELD DISSEM: NONE.

[redacted] 1.3(a)(4)

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[redacted] 1.3(a)(4)

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